FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 AUGUST 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force "destroyed" Khark Island on 15 August, transforming the island into "a pile of burning rubble," the Iraqi military command announced in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Although monitored Iranian media did not mention an attack on Khark Island, an Iranian military report cited by Tehran radio claimed that an Iraqi plane was downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire during an air attack on a Maltese oil tanker in the Gulf. The tanker sustained "minor" damage, the report added. However, an Iraqi military spokesman denied that any Iraqi planes were shot down during the raid on Khark Island, according to INA.

As for the land battles, Tehran radio carried reports of successful Iranian attacks in the central sector near Mehran, asserting that Iranian forces killed or wounded 900 Iraqis in two attacks on 15-16 August. On the other hand, Iraqi military officials cited by INA maintained that both Iranian offensives were crushed, with over 300 Iranians killed and 70 captured.

Lebanon

The security situation in Beirut deteriorated on 15 August and the "mad shelling" continued through the night killing 9 people and wounding over 60 others, Beirut radio reported.

In the south, an army of southern Lebanon (ASL) soldier was killed in another suicide car-bomb attack on a crossing point into the southern border strip, and the Lebanese branch of the Ba'th Party claimed responsibility for the operation, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio announced. Beirut radio subsequently reported that Tyre was being shelled by "Israeli" artillery in the border strip.

Libya

Relations With Tunisia, Egypt — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi announced in a statement broadcast by Tunis radio that he expects Tunisian-Libyan relations to be restored to normal following his "positive" talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Klibi's statement came after a meeting with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. Meanwhile, MENA cited an *AL-AHRAM* editorial denouncing Al-Qadhdhafi for acting like "a gang leader or Mafia member" in expelling 100,000 Egyptians from Libya and confiscating their funds.

"Bright Star" — JANA contended that the "Bright Star" exercises have been terminated ahead of schedule because "nationalist elements" in the Egyptian Armed Forces jammed communication equipment.

U.S. Diplomacy, Jordan, PLO

The chances for an impending meeting between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation are "very low," IDF radio disclosed in the wake of Murphy's talks with Jordanian and Israeli leaders. Noting that Israel attributes the U.S. refusal to compromise with Jordan and the PLO to Secretary of State George Shultz, who has curbed "dangerous" tendencies in the U.S. Administration, the radio said Murphy told the Israelis that King Husayn is disappointed with the firm stand taken by the United States. Murphy also informed the Israeli leaders that King Husayn failed to persuade PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to change the list of Palestinian nominees for talks with the United States, Jerusalem radio reported. Before his visit to Israel, Murphy held talks in Amman with the Jordanian Armed Forces commander, who subsequently received U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman, according to Amman radio and television.

In a separate development, the deputy chief of staff of the Palestine Liberation Army told the Saudi paper *AL-RIYAD* that the PLO has "no new military presence in Jordan," and he accused Israel of seeking to create an "appropriate climate" to attack Jordan.

Sudan

A high-level military delegation will visit the Soviet Union in September to discuss military cooperation, according to an *AL-AYYAM* report cited by SUNA.

Syria

Syria has tried to improve relations with the United States but improved relations can never be at the expense of Syrian interests or principles, President Hafiz al-Asad stated in remarks reported by Damascus radio. Speaking to Syrian doctors residing in the United States, Al-Asad noted that Syria has told U.S. officials that it would be beneficial for both sides to have good relations, and he pointed out that Syrian criticism of the United States is directed against U.S. policy, not against the American people, whom the Syrians "admire and respect."

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Karmal Congratulates Gandhi on Anniversary
LD160405 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Kabul, August 14, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, as well as Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, sent a congratulatory message to New Delhi addressed to Zail Singh, president and Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India on the occasion of 39th anniversary of independence of that country.

The message, while pointing to the existing good and fraternal relations between the DRA and the Republic of India, expresses full confidence that the friendly relations and mutual fraternal cooperation will further develop in future in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and in the interest of world peace and security.

PDPA Secretary Meets With Tajik SSR CP Official
LD160828 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0438 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Kabul, August 15, BAKHTAR — Mahmud Barialay, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC, has met Hakim Qayumov, [spelling as received] the head of the International Department of the Communist Party of the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic here today. During the meeting, both sides discussed the matters of mutual interest.

Fatherland Front Chairman Comments on Elections
LD152002 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1630 GMT 14 Aug 85

[Speech by DRA National Fatherland Front (NFF) chairman Abdorrahim Hatefi Pashto; date and place unspecified — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of Almighty God. On the occasion of these auspicious days, at the hope of which our fathers and forefathers and all [words indistinct] departed this world, our elders of the past waited for a long time, but no one (?paid attention) to our demands. However, that part of our beloved homeland's people, whose civil development has been granted now and who have been given the right to elect their representatives or to be elected, are truly very lucky.

On the occasion of this political event, I would like to congratulate all of you and pray for [words indistinct]. We hope to lay a good foundation for future generations. It is quite clear that future generations will be much more prosperous and happier than us and will be able to discharge their duties responsibly. Our duty is to lay a healthy foundation, and this we shall do if God wills.

In my brief statement I would like to quote from the speech of Babrak Karmal, which he delivered on the eve of 19 Zmaray [10 August]. He said: With the election to local organs, the most important gain of the April Revolution is being realized. The unity of workers and peasants, the unity of all toilers, true patriots of the country, intelligentsia, the men and officers of the Armed Forces, artisans, national entrepreneurs and national traders, religious and spiritual personalities, nomads, the credible and reputable representatives of all tribes, clans and nationalities of Afghanistan constitutes the foundation of this national sovereignty. The elections further democratize our revolution and society. Elections are the example of a very firm (?bond) between the party and the people. Elections broaden the social foundation of the revolution. Elections are the proof of the survival of the power and authority of the revolution. This was a part of the instructive speech by esteemed Babrak Karmal. This in fact is the brief essence of the Law of Local Organs of the State Power and Administration.

The eternal aspiration of the PDPA was and is the broadening and consolidation of national democracy. It has spared no efforts in this endeavor. Now every individual of the nation knows that their party and state are faithful and loyal to the cause of the people. Therefore, with the passing of every day and every moment the nation is rallying around the party and state.

A few months ago the great traditional Grand Assembly, in which the elders and representatives of all strata of the nation had come together, was convened. The assembly decisively confirmed the policy of the party and state within the country and in international affairs. The (?fervor) of that great National Assembly is still with us, being followed by the enforcement of the Law of Local Organs of the State Power and Administration, which is in fact the law of transfer of local power to the people. We consider this to be a great step towards social justice and the popularization of state affairs. [passage indistinct]

The election law, which is a complementary and necessary corollary to the Law of Local Organs, guarantees in all aspects the electors' freedom of opinion and expression. Broad publicity has been given to the Law of Local Organs and its benefits have been explained by the country's mass media, by the staff of the NFF, the party activists and other social organizations, When Babrak Karmal on 20 Zmaray [11 August] as an outstanding compatriot, took part in the elections in the Microrayon in Kabul's Ward No 9, this once again affirmed and emphasized freedom. That a candidate in that ward received 11 votes against him, despite the fact tht the number of votes in his favor was high, manifests the freedom of opinion.

Dear compatriots, you know that the freedom of opinion and (?expression) is a natural right of human beings. This has been declared in the UN Charter. But that this right has not been granted to our toiling people by regimes in the past pretending that the toiling people were still illiterate or had not attained the required development, was brutal behavior -- which originated with governments who were ruling in the interests of a small minority. This is clearly seen from our recent history, and can also be observedd in our neighboring countries.

When Babrak Karmal gave a message to the nation's elected representatives to the most recent Grand Assembly that henceforth they should be given the authority of local administration; that they themselves, or through their representatives,

would be electing governors, sub-governors and other officials, the people fervently and enthusiastically welcomed this message. The people were now aware that it was their right; they had forgotten such an idea during the past regimes. When their lost rights were revived with the statement of esteemed Karmal, because now the people firmly beleive in the pledges and statements of the party and state — this is again due to the fact that the proof of a few years have testified that the action and words of the party are two faces of one coin — then they expressed their gratitude with enthusiasm. Not much time has not elapsed since. Three months in the life of a nation is counted only in limited moments. What we dreamed has become a reality.

The Revolutionary Council announced stage-by-stage elections to be held beginning 20 Zmaray [11 August] at Kabul's Ward No 9 and Bagrami District. Because it is the first time that such elections have been held in the country and that the people have been made aware of the benefits of the election law, the toilers of Ward No 9 and Bagrami District all took part in the elections. In particular, Babrak Karmal was accorded a warm welcome at the ward elections he attended, proving that the stone-throwing by the enemy cannot create even tiny obstacles like the web of a spider, in the face of the increasingly consolidating relations between the party and people. The flimsiest house is that of a spider. [Verse recited in Arabic]

Once or twice we had elections during Zahre's monarchy, but the distance between that election and the present one is more than the distance between the earth and the sky, because the earth and the sky are linked to each other. I would like to point out a few differences in this regard. At that time elections were held only to the Constituent Assembly; and if by any chance the assembly passed such a law representing the interests of the people, then that law would disintigrate into pieces waiting for approval by the king and would not be utilized, except as wrapping paper. To cite an example let us remember the laws of parties and municipalities.

On the other hand, it is remarkable how patient a nation — that cannot get drinking water, has few schools, does not have hospitals and health clinics and other vital services — could be, waiting for its problems to be dealt with by legislation.

The present elections however, give power to the elected representatives of the people in provinces, municipalities and major districts. The assembly members are local inhabitants who know their problems and their solutions. These are not in any way comparable to elections of the past. The present assembly has considered the proportional representative share of every language, every tribe, every clan and every nationality. Thus the proportional share to workers, peasants, artisans, toilers, spiritualists, intellectuals and national entrepreneurs will be granted to them in localities in accordance with their numerical proportion, whereas in the past, only the upper class was represented. If someone else, as an exception, was elected from the lower class, he could not qualitatively influence the house.

There is another difference: At the present assembly the local people, in addition to the fact that they have complete freedom of voting, do not lose the right to control and supervise their representative after the elections, too. This right did not exist before. Contrary to elections in the past, the staff of the Armed Forces now has the right to elect or to be elected.

It is a matter of great pleasure that women enjoy full rights, and are taking part in the elections. I hope the actions of Kabul's women will be a good example in the villages and suburbs. It has always been a fact that the people control affairs and are the true masters of the country. This quotation however, was before the April Revolution became fixed in history and was transformed into a real hope of the revolution. And now is it being realized after the end of the elections.

On the basis of the above reasons, we consider the Law of Local Organs of the State Power and Administration to a be democratic law. The reason that the elections have been so fervently welcomed by the people is that they have identified them with their own interests. I am confident that the results of the elections, effective publicity and further understanding of the law will raise the level of participation of the people in the elections 100 percent. The people themselves will become the masters of the new administration that they have created with their own will.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to say a few words about the role of the NFF to the dear compatriots. Here once again I would like to quote Babrak Karmal's recent speech. He said: As a manifestation of unity and solidarity of all national and progressive forces, the NFF is being further consolidated. Its role is further enhanced through local elections of the people's representatives. Truly, the role of the front in these elections is inestimable. The front's organs and staff, prior to and during the elections, were engaged in explaining the articles of the law and in inviting the people to take broad part in them. We will try to eliminate our shortcomings, if any, in this regard.

As a member and chairman of the front, I would like to draw the attention of the front's collective members -- in other words social organizations, spiritual leaders, individual members and the professional staff of the front -- that, despite his heavy engagements, Babrak Karmal personally took a direct part in the elections and toured the election wards. Then, without any prior itinerary, he came to the Central Council headquarters of the NFF, where he drew the attention of the front's staff to their tasks in safeguarding the freedom of the election and issued necessary instructions which of course, have been observed. Babrak Karmal indeed pays to the freedom of elections and to the front itself.

In addition, I would like to quote here again his words which states that in [words indistinct) of the people's sovereignty, is entrusted to you, we will use all our authority until our people become the true masters of our beloved homeland. With this slogan, while thanking all elders, leaders and the collective and individual members of the front, I ask them to observe the instructions of their beloved leader; ask the people more than ever before to take part in their free and democratic elections and give their votes to the best candidates so this great national matter, the affairs of the local administrations, be entrusted to the most suitable people. In this way we will have discharged our civil and national duty and will have accomplished this religious duty about which the Almighty commands:

God doth command you to render back your trust to those to whom they are due. Success verily comes from Almighty God. [Koranic verses]

Forward toward the accomplishment of state affairs!

Briefs

Local Elections Update — Kabul, August 13, BAKHTAR — The election of the representatives of people for the local organs of the state power and administration continued today also in several villages of Bagrami District of Kabul Province today. Fifty-one deputies were elected by the people of these villages today in a free and democratic atmosphere. A number of elected deputies and voters expressed their thanks to the voters for their confidence in them as well as pledged to make their best contributions to the socio-economic development of the country. [Text] [*Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 14 Aug 85 LD*]

Hajj Statistics — Kabul, August 14, BAKHTAR — The Government of the DRA has accepted over 250 million afghanis (one dollar equals 50 afghanis) as subsidy for hajj pilgrims during the current Afghan year [which] began March 21, 1985. According to a spokesman of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Trust Properties of the DRA, 7,000 pilgrims are going to Mecca this year. [Excerpt] [*Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 15 Aug 85 LD*]

Further Reportage on Signing of Assam Accord

Terms for Foreign Nationals

3K160803 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The center and Assam agitation leaders have agreed that 1 January 1966 shall be the base date and year for detection of foreigners in the state. In the settlement that has been reached on the foreign nationals issue on Thursday morning, it has been announced that all persons who came to Assam prior to this date, including those whose names figured in the electoral rolls of the 1967, shall be regularized. Those who came to Assam after 1 January 1966 and up to 24 March 1971 shall be detected as foreigners and their names will be deleted from the existing electoral rolls. Such persons will be required to register themselves in accordance with the Registration of Foreigners Act and rules. After 10 years from the date of detection, such names will be restored to the electoral rolls.

The agreement makes it clear that all persons who were expelled earlier but since have re-entered Assam illegally shall be expelled. It also reaffirms that foreigners who came on or after 25 March 1971 shall continue to be detected and expelled in accordance with law. Immediate steps will be taken to expel such foreigners.

With a view to restore normalcy in the state, it has been decided that both the All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad will call off the agitation and they have also assured their full cooperation and dedication toward the development of the country.

The center as well as the state government have agreed to view with sympathy and withdraw cases of disciplinary action against government servants in the context of the agitation. It will ensure that there is no victimization. A scheme will also be framed for granting ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of those who were killed during the agitation. Government has also agreed to sympathetically consider proposals for relaxation of the upper age limit for employment in public services in Assam in view of the exceptional situation that prevailed in holding academic and competitive examinations in the state.

Details Given to Parliament

BK160859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpts] The terms of Assam settlement were officially announced by the home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, in Parliament today. It provides that 1 January 1966, shall be the base date and year for detection of foreigners in the state.

It has also been agreed that only the central government will issue citizenship certificates in future. The specific complaints that may be made by AASU [All Assam Students Union] and AAGSP [All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad — People's Action Council] about the irregular issuance of certificates will be looked into. The international border shall be made secure and further fortified to prevent further infiltration. Relevant laws for prevention of encroachment on government lands and lands in tribal areas are to be strictly enforced, and unauthorized encroachers will be evicted.

The government has also agreed to provide appropriate constitutional, legislative, and administrative safeguards to protect, preserve, and promote the cultural, social, and linguistic identity of heritage of the Assamese people. The government renewed its commitment for the speedy, all-round development of Assam.

The home minister announced that another oil refinery is to be set up in Assam. The government will render all possible assistance, like institutional finance and other facilities for the refinery which will be in the private sector.

Assam Leaders Call Off Agitation

BK151619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] The Assam movement leaders have called off their 6-year-old agitation. The Assam Students Union president, Mr Profulla Mahanta, said in New Delhi today that this follows the settlement reached with the center. He said there would not be any agitation from tomorrow. Mr Mahanta said that the agreement will bring happiness to the people of Assam.

The general secretary of the AASU [All Assam Students Union], Mr B.K. Phukan, and the convener of the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad [People's Action Council], Mr Biraj Kumar Sharma, have also hailed the signing of the accord.

All the movement leaders, who had come from Assam, met the prime minister in New Delhi this evening.

The state government has announced withdrawal of restrictions and prohibitory orders imposed under Section 144 CPRC [criminal procedure code prohibiting assembly of five or more persons] in different parts of the state.

Disclosing this in Gauhati today, the chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, said that the government officers and employees, who were affected during the prolonged agitation, will be reinstated with immediate effect.

Mr Saikia told the AIR [All India Radio] Gauhati correspondent (K.K. Beka) that justice has been done to all in the accord. He expressed the hope that the people in general will accept the agreement.

7 Casualties in Assam Bombing

BK160353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0335 GMT 16 Aug 85

[text] In Assam, three persons were killed and four injured when a bomb exploded at Rubber Bazaar at Tejpur last night. The injured have been admitted to local hospital.

Police investigation is on to track down the culprits.

BBC on Gandhi's 'Risk' in Punjab, Assam Accords

BK151329 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Aug 85

[From "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Indian prime minister, Mr Gandhi, has announced another agreement intended to end deep-rooted grievances among India's different communities. Following an agreement with Sikh leaders in Punjab last month, there now appears to be a settlement over the campaign of violence against illegal immigrants in the state of Assam. Mr Gandhi gave details during an address to the nation at the start of Independence Day celebrations in Delhi from where Mark Tully sent us this report:

[Begin recording] This morning's announcement means that in just 10 months Mr Rajiv Gandhi has found answers to the two problems which marred the record of Mrs Gandhi's last term of office. The Assam agitation against illegal immigrants from neighboring Bangladesh led to the massacre of 3,000 people during elections in 1983. The failure to resolve differences with the Sikh religious party led to the army attack on the Golden Temple and the assassination of Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi has taken major political risk in reaching these agreements. In Assam, for instance, he has gone against the advice of his own chief minister for agreeing to hold new elections for the state assembly. In Punjab, he ignored warnings by his two chief ministers ruling the neighboring states. They said that both the territorial settlement and the agreement on the sharing of river waters would turn Hindus in their states against the Congress Party. It has been this willingness to take political risk, which has been the sharpest constrast between Rajiv Gandhi's handling of these problems and his mother. Other contrasts have been the determined way in which Mr Gandhi has pursued the negotiations, his willingness to ignore timid bureaucratic advice, and his ability to prevent details of the negotiations leaking out prematurely to the press. [End recording]

Further Details

BK160114 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 16 Aug 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Student leaders in India's northeastern state of Assam have called off their agitation against alleged illegal immigration — a campaign which has led to at least 3,000 deaths over the past 6 years. The state government has lifted the special security measures that have been in force. These developments followed an agreement signed yesterday, Thursday, between the Indian Government and the leaders of the agitation. Mark Tully reports from Delhi that this agreement seems likely to cause differences between India and Bangladesh, where most of the immigrants are said to have come from.

[Begin recording] According to the leaders of the Assam Students Union, the government is now committed to detecting and deporting all illegal immigrants who entered the state after March 1971. The student leaders did not know how many illegal immigrants there might be but they said (?they) would be discovered when the detection started. But they did say that the illegal immigrants have come from Bangladesh which has a long common border with Assam and that they would have to be sent back to that country.

The Bangladesh Government insists that there has been no illegal emigration into Assam. Bangladeshi officials say that the comparison between conditions in Assam and their country show that there is no incentive to emigrate. The Bangladesh Government has already protested strongly about India's plans to keep out immigrants by building a fence along the border. The Assam student leaders have agreed that those who entered the state illegally between 1966 and 1971 will only lose their rights to vote for 10 years. The other major concession that the agitation leaders have won is the government's agreement to dissolve the state assembly and hold new elections. [End recording]

Police, Pro-Pakistan 'Mobs' Clash in Kashmir

HK160036 Hong Kong AFP in English 1554 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Aug 15 (AFP) — A triumphant Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi opened India's independence day ceremonies today with the announcement that he had just signed an agreement aimed at settling another internal conflict — the bloody nationalist violence against immigrants in Assam.

Mr Gandhi, presiding over the ceremonies for the first time, addressed thousands of Indian gathered for the 38th anniversary of India's independence from Britain on August 15 1947, at New Delhi's Red Fort, the center of the former British administration and symbol of the old colonial power here.

Meanwhile, in Srinagar, capital of Indian-held Kashmir, police repeatedly clashed with pro-Pakistani mobs, and a number of people were injured, including Police Superintendent Zumroot Hussain, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said. Police used batons and tear gas and lastly fired in the air to break up the mobs.

Trouble had erupted yesterday in the city in the northernmost border state, still under dispute between India and Pakistan.

INDIAN EXPRESS on Timing of Punjab Election

BK151545 Delhi THE INDIAN EXPRESS in English 9 Aug 85 p 6

[Editorial: "In the Right Frame"]

[Text] It is not altogether surprising that there should be two opinions about the timing of the Punjab election with the expiry of the extended tenure of President's rule placing an outer limit on the date without a further constitutional amendment.

There is welcome relief all round over the Punjab accord and the concern of those advocating postponement of the poll is that going to the hustings too soon might poison the atmosphere with recrimination and thereby revive communal bitterness, whereas this danger may be less some months later.

While the basic urge to avoid anything that accentuates the communal divide is right and proper it is not certain that postponement of the poll will necessarily solve this issue. If some elements are so minded to exploit communal sentiments for electoral gain and believe this will earn them dividends, they will do so irrespective of the timing of the poll. On the other hand, delaying the poll could equally engender uncertainty and speculation and give time for those opposed to the accord to consolidate their position and spread mischief.

There is much to be said in favour of restoring the political process in Punjab through an early election and popular rule. This could also be helpful in implementing the accord and would obviate the necessity for a constitutional amendment which has implications that go beyond Punjab. The Prime Minister would seem to prefer an early election but has said that the Government has an open mind and will await the recommendations of the Punjab Governor, which Mr Arjun Singh has promised by August 15.

The tone of the election campaign will be important whenever the poll is held. Much will depend on the nature of the issues raised and manner in which they are canvassed. A large responsibility therefore devolves on the contesting parties and candidates. This is a matter on which joint consultation would be useful so as to ensure that the campaign does not rehearse past grievances and hurts, but looks at the tasks ahead in building a new Punjab and restoring fraternity and prosperity. Given such a frame it should be possible to conceive of forming a broad-based government under a respected and widely accepted leader, for that is what Punjab needs rather than petty inter-party and intra-party squabbling and aggrandisement.

Whether now or later, the country must be prepared to face up to spoiling efforts by terrorists and should not be thrown off stride by any incidents. Opinion is fast consolidating against violence on all sides and this offers the best guarantee that terrorism will be isolated. It is also good to note that the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee — Sikh temple management] has set up a panel to suggest a code for maintaining the sanctity of the Golden Temple and other places of worship. Inner discipline will render unnecessary any external intervention.

Briefs

Gauhati Renamed as Guwahati — Guwahati, Aug 5 — The Assam Government has decided to spell this city's name as "Guwahati" instead of "Gauhati" in all official correspondence, reports UNI. According to the Chief Minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, this will be effective from August 15. [Text] [*Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 Aug 85 p 1 BK*]

Malaysian Special Envoy Meets Junejo 15 Aug
BK160241 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The Malaysian prime minister's special envoy, Zain Azraai, called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi yesterday. He conveyed to him the Malaysian prime minister's congratulations and message of goodwill. The prime minister reciprocated similar sentiments and asked the special envoy to convey to the Malaysian prime minister that he is eagerly looking forward to meeting him as soon as possible.

Zain Azraai has been sent as a special envoy of the Malaysian prime minister to Pakistan to exchange views on the Antarctica issue so that they can adopt a common stand on this problem at the forthcoming nonaligned foreign ministers conference and the UN General Assembly session.

The Malaysian special envoy also met with Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad. They discussed the issues which are likely to come up during the next session of the UN General Assembly. The special envoy especially referred to the Antarctica issue which has been considered during the past two sessions of the General Assembly. The foreign minister said Pakistan will fully cooperate with Malaysia on this issue. Only 16 countries are maintaining control on the uninhabitated continent of Antarctica,and Malaysia has proposed that the United Nations should consider ways and means to help include more countries in controlling and exploiting the resources of Antarctica. Pakistan has fully supported this proposal.

Afghan Civilian Casualties in July Raids Noted
BK160827 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Soviet-Karmal forces conducted heavy bombing raids on Achin Subdivision toward the end of last month, killing 38 and injuring 14 civilians. Ten Soviet-Karmal soldiers were also killed during these raids.

Two Bombs on Border With Afghanistan Kill 13
HK160955 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 16 (AFP) — Thirteen people were killed and 44 wounded today when two bombs exploded in a market at Parachinar, on Pakistan's border with Afghanistan, town officials said.

The bombs exploded within 10 minutes of each other. The first was placed on a bus which was about to leave for Peshawar 200 kilmeters (125 miles) to the east.

It exploded at about 11 a.m. local time (0600 GMT) and the flames engulfed a nearby petrol station, correspondents said.

The second bomb totally destroyed the market where there were several arms and ammunition shops, they added.

Several of the victims were reported to be Afghan refugees and local politicians, describing the attack as "sabotage", ordered an inquiry.

It was the most serious incident of its kind since Afghan refugees started flooding across the border after Soviet troops entered Afghanistan in 1979.

Several others have been reported in the area over the past few days. On Tuesday a mine killed seven people crossing a bridge.

At the beginning of the week the Pakistani Government accused Afghan artillery of having fired shells on the Parachinar area. The Kabul authorities denied the charge.

BANGLADESH

OBSERVER on Issue of Sharing Ganges Water

BK151615 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 8 Aug 85 p 5

[Editorial: "A Possible Alternative"]

[Text] Over the years the issue of sharing the Ganges water as well as the barrage at Farakka has remained a burning question between Bangladesh and India. In previous months a deadlock had been created over a water accord between these two countries. To resolve such a long-standing dispute between two neighbouring countries, we have been propagating some ideas for quite some time. Recently the Indian press has made references to the ideas mooted by us even though it has not made any comment on them.

The whole question of water-sharing and the Farakka barrage is closely linked to Calcutta Port. During the early days of the British rule in the subcontinent, Calcutta Port was established basically for two reasons: first, to move troops in and out of the Fort William and second, to facilitate the export and import trade of the colony. Over the years Calcutta not only became the most important port city of India but also one of the major centres of trade and commerce in this part of the world. Therefore, it became very important to keep this port alive, navigable and developed not only for West Bengal alone but also for the whole of India.

For years one major problem has, however, been that of siltation in the river Hoogly. The Ganges carries silts and deposits them in the river Hoogly thus making the latter innavigable to bigger ships. Over time the problem of siltation in the river Hoogly has resulted in a number of accidents, ships sinking and a whole bunch of other problems. One major way of stopping the siltation problem and keeping the Calcutta Port navigable was thought to be the flushing of the river Hoogly with a sufficient quantity of water.

That was the main justification for building the Farakka barrage. If the volume of water available at the Farakka point during the dry season is let flow into the rivers of Bangladesh and is only partly diverted to Hoogly, the resulting flow cannot take away all the silts in the river. Therefore, India wants all the available water to flush away silts in the river Hoogly to keep the Calcutta Port active and navigable throughout the year.

But what is flushing of a river for India represents death for Bangladesh. If all the water is diverted to the Hoogly river for its drainage and navigation, that implies drying up of our rivers, non-availability of water for agriculture and transport, ecological problems and, lastly, large-scale decline in agricultural production, starvation, poverty and death. Even for India, there are adverse side effects of Farakka Barrage. Instead of solving the problems of the river Hoogly, it has led to floods in different areas of West Bengal, erosion of the town Murshidabad and navigational problems from Calcutta to Dibrugarh.

Under such circumstances the big question is whether there is any alternative to Farakka where the Calcutta Port can be kept serviceable without crippling the economy of Bangladesh. There is a viable alternative available which we have been mooting for quite some time: to move the port from Calcutta down to some place like Diamond Harbour where ships will anchor, goods will be loaded and discharged and the city of Calcutta will be linked to all these activities through roads, railways or barges.

The whole scheme has some beneficial effects even without diminishing the importance of the city of Calcutta. First, the need for constant flushing of the river Hoogly would no longer be required. Thus there would no longer be any need for a Farakka Barrage and water can easily be diverted to the rivers of Bangladesh in sufficient quantities. It would mean the lifting of a severe strain from the life and the future viability of the Bangladesh economy. At the same time it would imply the removal of side-effects of Farakka on the economy of West Bengal. Second, the whole scheme would involve lesser cost than the Farakka itself. The good effects of this scheme will not be limited to these things only. It will also bring more peace and harmony between these two neighbouring countries.

Once again we are recommending this scheme to all concerned. If it is carried out sincerely and without delay, it may open up a new era in the relationship of India and Bangladesh.

SRI LANKA

Indian Diplomats 'Optimistic' About Bhutan Talks

HK160818 Hong Kong AFP In English 0801 GMT 16 Aug 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 16 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government was expected to present expanded proposals for a political settlement of a separatist issue in talks in Bhutan today with Tamil groups, reliable sources here said today.

The decision to put forward the enlarged proposals was taken after recent consultations by the official delegation with Colombo in an effort to end a stalemate in this second round of talks, the sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The second round began earlier this month and were to resume today after a break yesterday. The first round had taken place last month without much apparent progress.

It was not certain whether details of the proposals would be included in a reply government delegation leader Harry Jayewardene was planning to make to Tamil proposals or would be presented separately, the sources said.

The fine print of the government proposals was not immediately known, but sources told AFP they would deal with the structure of a devolution of power from the central government to the provinces and certain specific subjects such as land settlement, education and state employment, the sources said.

A section of the country's 2.5 million Tamils are campaigning for a separate state in the north and east because of alleged discrimination by the Sinhala majority. Militants among them have been waging a violent drive.

Some of the Tamils are ready to accept autonomy for the two provinces in the area and greater control over their affairs as an alternative to secession, Tamil sources have said.

The government has rejected three principles put forward by the Tamils as prerequisites to any settlement. Officials said the principles were inconsistent with a united Sri Lanka.

Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari is in Thimpu trying to get the Indian-initiated talks on the rails again.

State-owned radio said today that an Indian Foreign Ministry official has said that three of the four principles would be unacceptable to any nation.

The radio did not name the official or indicate where he made the statement.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sent Mr. Bhandari to Thimpu yesterday when it became apparent that the talks had stalled.

Diplomatic sources told AFP that Mr. Bhandari would be in Thimpu until Sunday and that he has been speaking to both sides in an effort toward progress.

Diplomatic sources said that India was keen to ensure some results in the current round so that meaningful steps could be taken to evolve a political solution.

Militant Tamil leaders are said to be living in southern India's Tamil Nadu state, where there is a significant Tamil population.

Indian diplomats said they were optimistic that the talks would progress soon but they were tight-lipped about what is happening in Thimpu, where reporters have been barred from the sessions.

"You will see some development today or tomorrow," one diplomat said, refusing to elaborate.

Other diplomatic sources said that India had been striving to get the leaders of the five militant groups to join their representatives already at the talks. "It may be some development in that direction," one diplomat said.

The sixth Tamil group at the talks is the Tamil political party.

A three-month ceasefire which began in June preceded the first round of talks. But violence has broken out periodically during the ceasefire.

Security sources today said the Army yesterday had shot dead two of three alleged Tamil militants who had mined a culvert in Vavuniya in the northern province.

Army units discovered some 20 kilograms (44 pounds) of gelignite under the culvert and a wire leading into the premises of a school where children were sitting an examination, the sources said.

The third alleged militant fled. One of the dead alleged militants had a hand grenade and a cyanide capsule with him, the sources said.

Tamil Immigrants Smuggle Heroin Into Switzerland
AU141554 Paris AFP in English 1542 GMT 14 Aug 85

[Text] Geneva, Aug 14 (AFP) — Nearly one-fifth of all heroin seized by Swiss police last year was found on Tamil emigrants, and the proportion is growing, official sources said today.

Out of 37.7 kilos (82 pounds) seized in 1984, 7.6 kilos (16.7 pounds) was smuggled by Tamils, mostly in the central Swiss canton of Bern, where the majority of the 3,000 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in Switzerland live, the sources from Bern said.

Last month, Bern police uncovered a Tamil heroin ring involving about 10 dealers in the city of Biel. Dozens of Tamils are awaiting trial here on charges of dealing in the white powder, and others have been charged in France.

Last week, customs officers at Yurich-Kloten airport arrested four Tamils who were allegedly trying to smuggle 1.35 kilos (2.9 pounds) of heroin, hidden in their suitcases, into Switzerland.

The smuggling was first detected in 1983, police said, and it has caused a major headache for relief organizations who are trying to stop Swiss authorities from sending Tamil refugees back to Sri Lanka.

Tamils also get a large part of their heroin sent to them by mail, the weekly *ILLUSTRE* magazine said in its latest edition.

Police said many letters containing 10 to 30 grammes (0.35 to one ounce) of the drug were sent from Sri Lanka to Western countries.

The magazine said many Tamils who left the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo had connections in the drug rings of Karachi, Pakistan, and Bombay, India, where heroin is "very cheap and very pure."

The drugs then transit through Syria or Tunisia, or through East European countries to East Berlin, Swiss authorities added. The smugglers then cross into West Berlin by car or subway.

Khomeyni Casts Vote in Presidential Election
GF160556 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit this morning at the start of polling of votes for the fourth presidential elections, Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Jamaran amidst the patriotic slogans of the people gathered at polling station No 110. He cast his vote. Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Ahmad Khomeyni and members of the imam's staff also cast their votes.

IRNA: Saudi Arabia Impounds Pilgrims' Ballots
LD151744 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — At 0700 local time Friday August 16, 1985, millions of Iranian voters will start streaming into more than 24,000 voting stations across the country to elect a new president who will act as the chief executive of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the next four years.

The three presidential aspirants — incumbent President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, former trade minister Habibollah Asgar-Owladi, and lawyer Dr. Seyyed Mahmud Kashani — made their last appeals in their campaign in the last hours of Wednesday since according to Iranian presidential election laws, there could not be any campaigning over the last 24 hours before voting begins.

In T.V. appeals and press conferences, the three called upon the people to make sure they vote for them, promising the voters better things to come.

While the candidates are taking a rest after a 10-day period of intense electoral activities, Thursday's evening and morning newspapers here in Tehran continued publishing statements issued by various national figures and organizations asking people to vote.

Most national political and social figures have said that voting in Friday's election is a means of reaffirming one's faith in and support for the Islamic revolution which in 1979 brought 2,500 years of monarchy to an abrupt end and replaced it with the first true Islamic system of government to be seen in the world.

Although there are no updated statistics available on the exact number of eligible voters in Iran, reliable sources in the Ministry of Interior, which is in charge of the election, say that about 20 million Iranians are legally eligible to vote. This is why the Ministry has printed 25 million ballot cards for this presidential election.

According to election regulations, all male and female Iranian citizens who are 16 years old or over on the voting day, can vote. To cater to this large number of voters, the Interior Ministry has set up over 24,000 voting stations across the country.

Since several hundred thousand Iranian people are at the fronts of the Iraqi-imposed war, the Ministry has set up 190 mobile polling stations which on Friday will collect the vote of Iranian troops up and down the 1000-plus-km-long fronts of the war.

This year, presidential election has coincided with the annual hajj pilgrim in which, 150,000 Iranians are participating. To be in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina does not mean that one cannot vote. Mostafa Tehrani, director general of the Interior Ministry in charge of elections said 100 polling stations have been set up in Saudi Arabia to take the vote of Iranian pilgrims there.

"There will be one station at the Iranian Embassy, another four polling stations will be at Jeddah airport where Iranian pilgrims are still arriving, and 30 stations in Medina and 60 stations in the holy city of Mecca will make sure all Iranian hajj pilgrims eligible to vote will not have to miss this election," Tehrani said.

Despite the Interior Ministry's efforts, a last minute hitch in Saudi Arabia is threatening the smooth conduct of voting for Iranian hajj pilgrims. Saudi custom officials on Tuesday impounded all the ballot cards which had been sent to Saudi Arabia for the use of Iranian pilgrims, and despite the efforts of Iranian officials there, the ballot cards were still kept at Jeddah airport custom department as of noon Thursday.

One of the officials in charge of Iranian pilgrims to Saudi Arabia told one of Tehran's evening dailies on Thursday that if the ballot cards were not released from custom, contingency plans would be put into effect through which Iranian pilgrims will still be able to cast their votes on Friday.

Mostafa Tehrani also said that in addition to the polling stations in Saudi Arabia, more than 400 polling places have also been set up at Iranian embassies and diplomatic missions across the world where Iranians living abroad could cast their votes.

The voting begins at 0700 local time (0330 GMT) Friday and polling stations will close at 1700 local time (1330 GMT) the same day.

"If the ministry realizes that more time is needed for voting, then voting hours could be extended at any polling station on the discretion of the minister," Tehrani, the Interior Ministry's director general for elections said.

As soon as voting ends, ballots will be taken out of the boxes and, under the watchful gaze of 48,000 election supervisors, counting begins.

"Small voting districts will furnish their results several hours after the closing of the voting, but in cities and large towns, it will take several days before the final result is known," Tehrani of the Interior Ministry said.

This notwithstanding, political pundits and those who follow political developments closely firmly believe that Friday's presidential elections will return the incumbent President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to office for a second four-year term. And on Wednesday night, in an interview with *ETTELA'AT* evening newspaper, President Khamene'i was reported to have said that one of the deciding factors for him to stand for re-election was that he felt it was his religious duty to do so.

Disruptive Iraqi Plots Foiled

GF160745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit, all members of subversive teams and groups of counterrevolutionary fighters who entered the country from Iraq to disrupt the fourth presidential elections have been either arrested or killed in clashes with officials.

Mr Reyshahri, the minister of information, in an exclusive interview with our correspondent yesterday afternoon, said that more details on the arrests will be supplied by the Information Ministry [words indistinct] in later press statements.

The information minister stressed that all members of terrorist and subversion teams — including teams from Kordestan Province — have been either arrested or killed. Giving more details on the plot, he said that as usual the world superpowers, in order to disrupt the elections, had invested much capital in the matter. Counterrevolutionary elements, according to their communiques, used all their strength to intimidate the people by subversive activities to prevent them from taking part in the elections.

While referring to a statement made by a hypocrites group and carried by the radio of the Zionist regime in Iraq, the information minister said that the hypocrites organization exerted great efforts and that in its threats had called these planned subversions their greatest attacks against the Islamic Republic. However, this was one of their great follies: Before their eggs hatched they loudly announced false claims through the foreign mass media, announcing that between 10 Mordad [1 August] and 25 Mordad [16 August] they would launch a great attack on Tehran and other cities to disrupt the elections. However, these organizations, despite their efforts to publicize their aims, have not been heard from since.

The information minister said that the objective of this propaganda was to cover up their own follies outside their country, create a sense of euphoria among the superpowers and an atmosphere of insecurity within this country, and to make believe that the Islamic Republic was incapable of keeping public peace. They also aimed at creating a propaganda crisis on the eve of elections to intimidate the voters to avoid the elections.

The minister said, regarding the organizing of this plot, that these people had three purposes. They had trained terrorist teams, harrassment teams, and propaganda teams; 20 such teams arrived in Iran from Iraq some 2 months ago. These teams were trained in Iraq for 6 to 18 months. Their terrorism was aimed at ordinary people. Their harrassment teams also included a very limited number of their supporters within this country. Their objective was to set fire to shops and (?housing) belonging to the people.

The minister said in conclusion that so far these plots have proved totally ineffective and their members have been either arrested or killed. The minister attributed their rout to the grace of God, public cooperation, and the cooperation of the state intelligence organization.

Montazeri on Elections

LD161034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, our colleagues have prepared a report on Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's pariticipation in today's elections. Please pay attention to it:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Despite the vast propaganda fanfare created by the arrogant mass media aimed at poisoning people's minds with regard to the system of the Islamic Republic and creating doubts about the vast and active role played by our country's vigilant people in determining their destiny, for some time now the committed citizens of the city of blood and uprising, Qom, whether lecturers, clergymen or seminarians from the religious seminary, and various segments of the population -- along with the rest of their compatriots throughout the country -- with tremendous enthusiasm and in short and long lines, arrived opposite the polling stations since the early hours of the morning to vote for the president of their choice.

Similarly, His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Montazeri went to the Hoseyniyeh Shohada religious center this morning and at 0930 cast his vote in polling box No 158 for the election of the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. While taking part in the voting, His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Montazeri graciously spoke to the correspondent of the Central News Unit:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Could you please say a few words on voting to our dear listeners?

[Montazeri] May peace and God's mercy and benedictions be upon you! I seek refuge in God from accursed Satan. In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The entire Iranian nation expects the future president of the country to carry out the important task entrusted to him as laid down in the Constitution, in other words, the implementation of the Constitution and coordination the country's three branches. These two tasks head all the tasks of this office. [Passage indistinct]

Our brothers should pay attention to the fact that since the beginning of the revolution, we have promised the people a just government, and the people have such expectations from us. In other words, a nation wherein the rights of the weak could not be regained from the strong without violence would not be a holy nation. In other words, the state of affairs in the country should be such that a weak person would be able to regain his rights from the strong without fear or trepidation. As I have already said, the implementation of the Constitution and coordination of the three branches are entrusted to the president of the Republic. And just as the Arabs would say: Everything lies here. Once this is carried out everything would be all right, God willing! May God Almighty grant success to the future president of the Republic so that he can carry out his tasks, and may He grant victory the Muslim combatants on the fronts and grant long life to the leader of the revolution.

[Correspondent] Could you please graciously inform us as to the duty of the people today with regard to participation in the elections?

[Montazeri] As I have already said in these circumstances when the East and West are spreading propaganda against us with their radios and groups have boycotted the elections, our nation — as it has done so far — should cast its votes into the polling boxes in closed ranks. Here once again, for the umpteenth time, I would like to remind those young people who have fallen into the snares of the groups: See for yourselves, your leaders are collaborating with imperialism. You people who say that the criterion of good or evil is waging struggle against imperialism or being in concert with imperialism should now see that both Eastern and Western imperialism are currently engaged in activities against the Islamic revolution. As you can see that your own leaders are currently coordinating their actions with those of imperialism, why have you fallen into theirsnares? May God Almighty grant us all success so that we can carry out our tasks!

[Correspondent] Thank you. [End recording]

Dear listeners, it is now 1115 hours. We have a report about the voting of Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, in the fourth presidential elections, which you will now hear:

Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, amid an ardent welcome from the Tehran citizens, went to Arbab Mosque in Kalantari Square this morning and cast his vote in polling box No 118/4. According to the same report the prime minister then went to the Interior Ministry and together with Mr Nateq-Nuri, the interior minister, inspected the various sections of the election staff headquarters. During this visit, which was attended by a number of Interior Ministry officials and other responsible officials, the prime minister visited the various sections of the countryside election staff headquarters, and while expressing appreciation for the work done by the staff personnel, gave the necessary guidelines.

Karrubi Addresses Pilgrims, Urges Vigiliance

GF151930 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Voice and Vision correspondent's report from Mecca — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Muslim Shi'ites and Sunnis have to be fully vigilant and alert to the plots of the enemies which are designed to disperse the ranks of the nation and to scuttle them. The preachers and the guides have to be alert to these plots and reveal their dimensions to the Muslims. This was stressed by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Sheykh Mehdi Karrubi, the imam's representative and the official in charge of the affairs of the pilgrims, when his eminence received today in Mecca a number of Sunni ulema who arrived from various parts of the world to the Holy Land at the invitation of the imam's mission.

His eminence referred to the plots being hatched by the enemies against the Islamic revolution, particularly their latest scheme to disperse the ranks of the Muslims. He warned that the enemies are using all their capabilities and energies in order to disperse our ranks, the best evidence being the recent events in Lebanon.

Sheykh Karrubi also referred to the demonstrations of Islamic unity that took place in its best form in the Medina, stressing that what we should know is that Islam has become a great danger to the enemies who believe that Islam is besieging them.

He indicated that the cohesion of power in the prayer rites and standing alongside one another constitute a strong blow to our enemies who are escalating their plots against Islam. All we have to do is to confront these plots with vigilance so that they will boomerang, God willing. Had it not been for the unity and the activity of the Muslims, the athiestic, Marxist and materialist currents would have mushroomed. The Muslim monothiests are the people who through their unity confront and eliminate these currents.

Sheykh Karrubi also referred to the importance of the instructions of the imam of the nation and the positions of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri with regard to the unification of the Islamic ranks, particularly during the latest developments in Lebanon. He expressed hope for the success of all Muslims. He also hoped that the Muslims will multiply their efforts to restore the glory of Islam.

Further Reportage on Visit on Hungarian Minister

Meets With Prime Minister

LD151243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Hungarian Finance Minister Hetenyi and the delegation accompanying him met with Prime Minister Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi this morning. During this meeting the Hungarian finance minister said: Ever since the victory of the Islamic revolution the Hungarian Government has respected your efforts and backed the anti-imperialist policy of that struggle. He expressed the hope that by learning more about the Islamic Republic of Iran's future economic plans Hungary will be able to provide continuous cooperation in development plans.

Prime Minister Musavi, while welcoming such visits, stated that economic relations with other countries are conditional on respect for our country's foreign policy principles, and said: Following the revolution the volume of our foreign exchange with Third World countries has multiplied. The prime minister added: The two countries' joint economic commission plays a sensitive role in Iranian-Hungarian economic relations and problems should be seriously followed up.

Our correspondent reports that the Hungarian finance minister also met with Petroleum Minister Ghazari, at the Petroleum Ministry today and had discussions on economic and trade problems of interest to the two countries. At the conclusion of this meeting the two sides affirmed the expansion of trade cooperation, stressing the need to make greater use of Hungary's technology, particularly in the oil industries, in placing orders for certain essential parts, and in raising the level of trade exchanges.

Meets With Agriculture Minister

LD151827 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA — Iran seeks close ties with all countries which respect the Islamic Republic and its independence, Iran's minister of agriculture, Dr 'Abbas 'Ali Zali said at his meeting here Thursday with the visiting Hungarian finance minister, Dr. Istvan Hetenyi.

At the meeting which was held as part of the second round of ministerial talks between Iran and Hungary, Zali added that the two countries could have have extensive cooperation in technical, scientific, research and commercial fields. Iran is prepared to export wheat, rice, sugar beet, and cotton all among Iran's main crops, to Hungary, Dr Zali said.

The Hungarian minister said that Hungary is to purchase both oil and non-oil commodities from the Islamic Republic of Iran. He added that the bilateral committees of the two countries have prepared the ground for signing a letter of understanding which denotes the main fields of cooperation between Iran and Hungary. Dr Zali in an interview with IRNA Thursday said that this letter of understanding will increase the volume of trade between the two countries considerably.

The Hungarian minister also spoke to IRNA today saying that talks held between the two countries were very successful because they were based on industrial independence and self-sufficiency.

Industries Minister Meets With Czech Premier

LD151646 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — The Czechoslovak Prime Minister [title as received] Josef Korcak said Thursday that his country was prepared to increase its trade with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a meeting with Iran's minister of industries, Gholam Reza Shafe'i, the Czech premier said his government was aware of the strategic position of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The two reached agreements on the sale of Czech industrial machineries and the transfer of technology as well as Czech participation in development projects in Iran. It was agreed that Iran should increase its export of non-oil goods so as to help create a trade balance between the two countries. Iran also sells oil to Czechoslovakia.

Besharati Departs for Australia, New Zealand

LD151226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Mr 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, the acting foreign minister [as heard], yesterday left for New Zealand and Australia at the head of a high-ranking political and economic delegation to explore various fields in which relations with those countries may be further expanded and strengthened. The visit is taking place at the official invitation of those two countries.

Tehran Outlines Policy with Arab Countries

GF151336 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Our Policy is a Guarantee for Improvement of Relations"]

[Text] It is known that the visit of Brother Sheykh ol-Eslam, political assistant at the Foreign Ministry, to Khartoum will lead to a speedy restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries which have been severed since 1982. The restoration of relations with Sudan comes at a time when there is a distinct readiness by more than one Arab and Gulf country to reconsider its relations with Tehran.

Officials in these countries admit a residue of mistaken bias toward Iraq in its destructive war. This bias had been the result of direct and indirect influence by circles which did not hide their interests in inflaming the war and continuing it.

A resumption of good relations is an open affirmation that most Arab countries and governments have begun to realize clearly the fact that Iran today, and the Islamic, popular, stable, strong, and prosperous regime that it represents, has an important place in international affairs and is major force which needs to be consulted in order to arrive at a true formula for cooperation in various fields among the peoples of the Islamic and Arab Third World. This is particularly true in limiting tension, especially when there is an agreement between East and West to export tension to the region in order to achieve the interests and ambitions of the arrogant countries. These interests are well known.

Observers currently feel that the GCC countries, for instance, have begun to reject all forms of Western tutelage regarding their relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the negative results of which are reflected in the security and stability of these countries.

The restoration of relations with Sudan must necessarily be in the interest of the Arab and Islamic nation as a whole. It is a step in the right direction toward distinguishing enemy from friend with regard to the Arab brethren. In response to those falsehoods which describe the visits of our officials to Arab countries as intended to provoke differences among certain Arab blocs and axes, we do not exaggerate when we say: The Islamic Republic's rapprochement with these countries and the promotion of fruitful strategic cooperation among them is one of the most prominent future guarantees to resolve the artificial differences on various Arab-Arab and Arab-Palestinian levels and among the Palestinians themselves along the course that serves the general Arab and Islamic interests.

Perhaps our most conspicous support of this is the worsening state of fear and anxiety among Western circles toward any improvement of Arab relations with Islamic Tehran on the future of Western monopolies and illegitimate hegemony in the Islamic East and North Africa in particular.

KEYHAN Comments on 'Cool' Relations With Kuwait

GF140734 London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] Qatari Officials, on behalf of GCC members, have warned Mohammad Hoseyn Levasani, Iran's deputy foreign minister in charge of Asia and Middle East and Islamic countries, that the GCC members will not continue to remain quiet in the face of Iran's support for terrorist groups in the Persian Gulf region.

According to the publication "Secret Reports." Qatar's security officials during Levasani's trip to Doha showed him documents which indicated cooperation between the Islamic Republic and the terrorists who have recently been arrested in Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain. One of these concerned a five-man group which was arrested at Doha airport last month. Detailed maps of Kuwaiti industrial and military installations were found in their baggage. One of the five had until last year served as third secretary of the Islamic Republic's Embassy in Kuwait. The officials in Qatar handed the men over to Kuwait after their arrest.

According to the publication "Secret Reports" Levasani's trip was to assure the Arab governments in the Persian Gulf that the Islamic Republic had no role in the recent wave of explosions in Kuwait.

Levasani, when faced with the documents, claimed that the documents were forged and designed to blacken the name of the Islamic Republic by the regime's enemies. Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti officials refused entry to Levasani and this week stepped up security to prevent further acts of sabotage.

According to diplomats in Kuwait, the National Assembly in a short 10-minute session approved plans which give special powers to Interior Minister Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al Sabah. According to this plan the Kuwaiti Government will carefully review the files of 280,000 Iranians, Iraqis, Palestinians, Lebanese, and Syrians residing in Kuwait to see if their residence permits should be renewed, or if they should be expelled. During the past 2 weeks, 650 Iranians and 160 Iraqis have been expelled from Kuwait. It is interesting to note that the expelled Iraqis were not sent back to Iraq, but rather to Iran.

One high-level security official in Kuwait has predicted that until the end of this Christian calendar year, all Iranians and all Iraqis who have in any way had contacts with the regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni or those who support this regime will be deported to Iran.

According to the Kuwait press, the government of that country is determined to solve the problem of terrorism there once and for all.

Presently, the most important network which has underground connections and influence among the Shi'ite workers is the Kuwaiti Islamic Front. This front was created in 1983 by the grouping together of the Islamic Unity Movement of Kuwait, the Da'wa' Party -- Kuwait branch, the Islamic Teachers' Association, the Islamic students and womens' group, and several other smaller bodies. The leader of this front is Ayatollah Bagher Mehri, the former representative of Khomeyni in Kuwait, and his cousin. Ayatollah Mehri, who was the head of the Shi'ite religious school in Kuwait, was expelled from Kuwait at the beginning of the Islamic revolution in Iran. Later, with the brothers Modarresi, Mohammad Taqi, and Hadi, he set up an organization in Tehran that makes plans for toppling the regimes of Persian Gulf countries.

The two organizations, Arab Revolutionary Brigade and the Islamic Jihad, have been used in acts of terrorism in the Persian Gulf as a cover for the Islamic front of Kuwait. During the past 5 years the Kuwaiti Government has arrested and expelled hundreds of members of this group. 'Ali Shams Ardekani, the former Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, was sent quietly to Tehran because of his contacts with terrorist networks. At that time Kuwait received information about Ardekani and told the Iranians not to send him back. Since then relations between the two countries have remained at the charge d'affaire level.

Presently, Mohammad Reza Bagheri has been the charge in Kuwait and the Kuwaiti press has asked for his expulsion as an unwanted element. Relations between Kuwait and Iran were friendly after the revolution but are now quite cool.

The Islamic regime has for the past year refused to hand over a Kuwaiti airbus which was hijacked to Tehran. Last month the Kuwaiti ship *Al-Muharraq* was confiscated for 23 days, and its cargo, which was destined for Iraq, was taken out; only then was the ship released. According to the Kuwaiti press a stern warning from Great Britain to the Islamic regime to release the ship's British captain and engineer forced the Iranians to release the ship.

IRNA: Lebanese Hezbollah Condemns Murphy Tour

LD151637 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Beirut, Aug 15, IRNA — Adherents of Hezbollah (Party of God) in Lebanon issued a communique Thursday condemning the current visit of U.S. presidential envoy, Richard Murphy, to the Middle East. The group called on Muslims to protest against what it termed as moves towards reaching peace with Israel.

The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived in occupied Palestine from Jordan Thursday to hold talks with Israeli officials. Murphy is pursuing initiatives aimed at making peace between the Zionist regime and King Husayn of Jordan.

In its statement, the Hezbollah said the United States and Israel were responsible for the lives of those Lebanese still in Israeli prisons. It called for "selfless military operations" against the Zionists to continue "until all Muslim mujahidin and lands are liberated".

U.S. Navy Secretary's Visit to Aqaba Reported

GF160817 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The U.S. secretary of the Navy arrived in Amman on 15 August after inspecting the installations at the Jordanian port of Aqaba. On arriving in Amman he met with the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

AP reported that neither Jordanian nor U.S. officials have disclosed the objective of the visit. However, the Institute for Strategic Studies in London said that this is the first time the U.S. Navy has openly shown interest in the port of Aqaba.

The port of Aqaba has a 25 km coastal border road which is guarded by 300 guards and about 12 patrol boats. The port is also one of the principal centers for the transit of supplies to the Iraqi regime.

Hezbollah Opposes Lebanese National Front Plan

GF140750 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 14 Aug 85

[Text] Hezbollah has issued a statement in Lebanon, which was published in Beirut's newspapers yesterday in which it criticized the work plan announced by the National Union Front.

Our correspondent in Beirut quoted the statement as saying: This plan is aimed at the destruction of the struggle of Muslims in Lebanon, which constitutes the principal pillar in the confrontation of the Zionist enemy, the tyranny of the Phalangists, and the sectarian regime in Lebanon, and desires to separate religion from politics by opposing the true Islamic regime.

The Hezbollah statement added: The only possible plan to study at this sensitive stage is a plan based on the Islamic nation's confrontation of the United States, its allies, Israel, and its agents. Nothing, not even political deliberations, can possibly take the place of continued struggle until the present sectarian regime in Lebanon is destroyed. The only way to rescue Lebanon from subservience to West and East and to remove it from the sphere of international bargaining is the way of Islam.

In conclusion, Hezbollah in Lebanon denounced the convening of the recent Arab summit. It said: It is truly shameful that this conference supported the aggressions of the ruling Zionist regime in Iraq against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the only independent country not tied to East or West and where the issue of confronting Israel and the United States is not overlooked.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraq Attacks Abadan, Khorramshahr

GF151500 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] During the past 24 hours the mercenaries of the Ba'thist Zionist Iraqi regime attacked the resisting and martyr-nurturing city of Abadan with their heavy, long-range artillery. As a result of this barbaric act, six houses were damaged and one fire was started. However, through the efforts of the fire brigade personnel it was brought under control. The city of Khorramshahr and villages around it were also the target of enemy shelling. One civilian compatriot was wounded and parts of the city were damaged.

Communique Reports Artillery Duels

LD151644 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA — Iran's Joint Staff Command Thursday reported sporadic artillery duels and a number of clashes between Iranian Combatants and Iraqi Troops.

In its Daily communique issued Thursday, the Joint Staff Command of the Iranian Armed Forces said that Iraqi guns were silenced in the northern front while enemy movements in the area came to a halt as a result of Iranian shelling. Six Iraqi troops were either killed or wounded while four of their bunkers were destroyed in the north, said the command. In Qasr-e Shirin area, Muslim combatants forced three Iraqi patrols to flee when they tried to infiltrate Iranian positions, it said.

The heavist artillery duels were reported from the Maymak and Mehran regions in the central front and Hoseyniyeh and Kushk areas in the south. Iraqi airplanes failed to hit their targets because of heavy Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the southern front, it added.

Ti further said that the Gendarmerie forces stationed in the vicinity of the Arvand River killed or wounded an undetermined number of Iraqi troops and destroyed one of their ammunition depots while in the nearby port of Abadan, six houses were damaged as the result of Iraqi long range artillery shelling.

Iraqi Jet Downed

LD151722 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Iranian Armed Forces announced that at 1455 local time Thursday (1125 GMT), an Iraqi intruding jet was shot down in the northern parts of the Persian Gulf. The Iraqi jet was hit with an Iranian ground-to-air missile, the Command said.

Further Details

LD152055 Tehran Domestic Serivce in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] According to a report of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, at 1455 hours today an Iraqi aircraft that had attacked an oil tanker in the Persian Gulf became a target of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army's ground-to-air defense fire and was downed. On the basis of this report, the damage inflicted upon the tanker, which carried the Maltese flag, was minor and a fire was extinguished with the help of Iranian officials.

Iraqi Counterattack 'Repelled'

LD151812 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — More than 500 Iraqi troops were either killed or wounded and ten of them were taken prisoners in the early hours of Thursday when Iranian forces rushed the fortified positions of the Iraqi enemy in Changuleh

region, the Khatam ol-Anbiya Joint Headquarters announced Thursday.

The announcement said following the successful "Ashura I" operations of the Iranian forces against counterrevolutionary elements in the northwestern parts of the front, at 0200 hours local time Thursday (1030 GMT Wednesday), the "Ashura II" penetrating attack was mounted in Changuleh region south of Mehran.

"After crossing numerous minefields and other obstacles erected by the Iraqis, Iranian forces succeeded in either killing or wounding 500 Iraqi troops at 145, 135 and 150 Heights as well as on Do Qaleh Hill while taking ten of them prisoners," the announcement said.

In this operation, the announcement added, the 1st and 2nd Battalion of the 144th Brigade of Iraq's 35th Division suffered major losses and considerable amounts of arms and ammunition were taken as booty by the Iranian combatants.

Following this successful operation, at 0800 local time (0430 GMT) Thursday, the Iraqi enemy, through deploying a mixed battlion from its Misaq and Ashahabi commando units, mounted a counteratack near height 145. The headquarters announcement said the counterattack was repelled by the Iranian forces who inflicted some more casualties and damages on the enemy.

Further Details

LD151929 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Our correspondent reports on the "Ashura II" operations carried out this morning by the monotheistic army's self-sacrificers in the Changuleh region, south of Mehran:

The monotheistic Army's combatants in operations at 0200 this morning in the Changuleh region south of Mehran, killed and wounded more than 500 Iraqi troops. In these operations, which were carried out with the intention of destroying the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi enemy forces, the Basij forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the central province, together with some forces from Lorestan and Khuzestan Provinces, having crossed minefields and planted booby traps in the 145 Heights, Do Qaleh and (?Shiyar-e Belikhod) regions, known by Iraqi troops as the (?Qadisiyah) Heights, killed or wounded more than 500 of the Iraqi Shahabi forces from their 1st and 2d Battalions, 114th Brigade, 35th Division, and the remainder were forced to flee.

In these operations, in which the combatants of Islam enjoyed the support of artillery and other weapon fire, our forces destroyed some of the small- and large-caliber weaponry of the Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries of Iraq and captured other weapons. A number of Ba'thist groups also were captured by the warriors of Islam in this battle.

Sergeant Dyuf, a conscript of the Shahabi forces 1st Battalion, 114th Brigade and captured by the forces of Islam in this morning's operations, in an interview said: Last night, as commander of an ambush unit in the Qadisiyah Hills, I was ahead of our company when, at 0300 this morning, we were surrounded by the forces of Islam. In connection with the casualties among the Iraqi forces, he said: Two companies from Iraq's 114th Battalion were completely destroyed, and the rest were killed and wounded or they fled.

Second Class Sergeant Mahmud Hudah-Ilan from Iraq's 1st Company, 1st Battalion, 114th Brigade, and another captured Iraqi soldier said that the reason for the Iraqi Army's defeat and surrender is due to the lack of morale among Iraq's Armed Forces, and added: I call on Iraqi troops to surrender in order to free themselves from the chains of the Ba'thist-Zionist of Iraq.

[Signed] The Central News Unit correspondent in Ahvaz

500 Casualties Reported

LD151742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Excerpts] This announcement has been issued this evening by Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters in connection with the "Ashura II" penetration operations carried out by the Islamic combatants. The Islamic combatants began "Ashura II" penetration operations in the wake of the victorious "Ashura I" operations, which took place in the western regions of the country against outlaws and counterrevolutionaries.

The operations began at 0200 in Changuleh region, south of Mehran, with the infliction of heavy blows at the body of Zionist regime of Baghdad. Our forces crossed minefields, booby traps and harrassment obstacles, and killed or wounded 500 enemy troops around Hills 145, 135, 150, and the Do Qaleh hills; 10 of their personnel were captured.

During the operations the mighty combatants of Islam, including mobilization forces from Central Province, Lorestan and Khuzestan Provinces set on fire large parts of enemy equipment and ammunition. Some equipment was captured.

In the above operations, the enemy's 35th Division saw its 114th Brigade's 1st and 2d Battalions suffering heavy blows. A number of units belonging to the above were totally destroyed.

'Ashura II' Details

GF151920 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Excerpt] The forces of the Islamic Republic today carried out a suicidal operation in the Changuleh region in western Iran called the "Ashura II" operation. During this operation they killed or wounded 500 Iraqi troops and captured 10. This statement was made by the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards and the Islamic Republic Army. The statement added: During this operation, the Muslim fighters destroyed large quantities of military equipment belonging to the forces of the Saddam regime and captured a quantity of the Saddamists' weapons and their military equipment.

The Khatam ol-Anbiya statement added: The Islamic soldiers crossed the minefields and various other obstacles of Height 135, Height 145, Height 150, Height Do Qaleh, and Height (Shiyar Dili Khan), inflicting heavy losses upon the first and second battalions of the 114th Brigade of the 35th division of the Iraqi Army and destroying other units of the Saddamists.

Our correspondent reported the following: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In a continuation of the suicidal and victorious chain of "Ashura" operations carried out by the heroes of Islam against the demolished Saddamist forces at the fronts of the conflict of light versus darkness, at 0200 local time today the heroes of the united army carried out the "Ashura II" operation in the region of Changuleh, south of Mehran. During this operation, the heroes of Islam carried out a lightning attack against the heart of the positions of the forces of the teetering Ba'thist Zionist regime, dealing them painful and devastating blows. The heroes of Islam began the "Ashura II" operation with cries of "O Mahdi! Succor me!"

The heroes of Islam then crossed the various minefields and controlled Height 145, Height Do Qaleh, and Height (Chiyar Bani Khan) inside Iraq which have been called by the demoralized Saddamist army Al-Qadisiyah Heights. During this operation, the united soldiers killed or wounded more than 500 Saddamist mercenaries and caused the rest of the 1st and 2d Battalions of the 114th Brigade of the 35th division of the Iraqi Army to flee. The heroes of Islam also destroyed or captured large quantities of heavy and light arms and equipment. During this victorious "Ashura II" operation, a number of the conquered Saddamist army were captured.

'Ashura III' Operations

GF160724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] According to a report received from Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, during the successful "Ashura II" operations, which began yesterday in the Changuleh region south of Mehran, at 0210 [2240 GMT] today the Islamic forces began the "Ashura III" operations in the north of the (?region) and succeeded in inflicting heavy blows on the enemy forces. In these penetrating operations the Islamic fighters, penetrating deep into the enemy positions, killed or wounded more than 400 enemy soldiers. They also captured a number of enemy soldiers. The details of the "Ashura III" operations will be broadcast in later newscasts.

Further Details

LD161340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the Joint Operations Headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Revolution Guards Corps, has issued the following announcement: At 0200 today, Islam's combatants began "Ashura III" operations in a region north of Faqqeh, dealing heavy blows to the enemy.

During these victorious operations, Islam's combatants, including mobilization forces from Karaj and Varamin, succeeded in destroying the 1st and 2d Battalions of the 108th Brigade of Iraq's 16th Division, killing or wounding more than 450 enemy personnel, a number of whom were officers and commanders. Islam's Army captured a number of the Zionist enemy personnel. So far, 35 of them have been transferred to the rear.

A considerable amount of enemy equipment and military hardware, including a vehicle depot, were set ablaze, while a quantity of engineering equipment and a command headquarters of one enemy battalion were destroyed. Also, a quantity of light and heavy weaponry belonging to the enemy forces fell into the hands of Islamic combatants.

Radio Iran Reports Clashes in Varamin

GF141636 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Aug 85

[Text] Following the destruction of dozens of homes in Varamin by armed agents of the regime — homes which had been built without the permission of the municipality — the poor owners of the destroyed homes, their meager possessions in hand, staged a sit-in outside Varamin Municipality. However, the armed agents of the regime resorted to harsh measures to disperse them. Several of them were injured by punches and kicks.

A group of the city's people, in a spontaneous act of unity, sided with the homeless demonstrators and clashed with the regime's armed agents. In the course of the clash, three committee members were injured and two committee vehicles were destroyed. Some 30 angry people were also injured.

Radio Iran Reports Pakistani Deportations

GF151646 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Following the recent demonstrations by Shi'a reactionaries in Quetta, Pakistan deported 120 Iranian subjects and 300 Afghans who had connections with the Islamic Republic of Iran after imprisoning them for 1 week. The spokesman for the Quetta military commander said that a large amount of money, weapons, posters, and publications which contained antigovernment slogans and disturbing religious phrases, were seized from the deportees.

At the same time, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador in Pakistan Mir Mohammad Musavi-Khamene'i, was summoned to the foreign ministry and received a strongly-worded note in connection with the interference by the Islamic Republic in the local unrest in Pakistan. The Pakistani officials warned him that from now on the Pakistani Government will deal with any Iranian subject arrested in connection with religious unrest according to the laws of its country.

According to Pakistani laws, if participation in demonstrations and unrest results in deaths, a sentence of execution will be carried out against the accused.

KEYHAN Notes 'Plots' Against Pakistan

GF150945 London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Aug 85 p 16

[Text] Following the declaration of an unlimited curfew in Quetta, Pakistan, the border police in this town imposed special regulations in the borders between Iran and Pakistan.

Following a week of sporadic clashes and 6 hours of violent clashes at the end of this week between the Shi'ites supporting Ayatollah Khomeyni and the police and most of the citizens of Quetta, who are Sunnis, a curfew was imposed in that town.

In these clashes 26 were killed and close to 170 people were injured. The governor of Quetta asked General Ziaul Haq to send support troops to keep calm in the town.

Informed Pakistani sources in London said that Pakistani police recovered from the 200 people arrested millions of rupees in cash, and hundreds of leaflets and pictures, all of them in one way or another connected with the Khomeyni regime.

One of those arrested in Seyyed Mullah Khan, one of Pakistan's Shi'ite clerics, who has confessed that he has illegally entered Iran dozens of times, and that money, propaganda leaflets, and even guns were placed at his disposal by the Revolutionary Guards stationed in Mirjaveh. Pakistani newspapers that printed the confessions of this clergyman have asked the Pakistani Government not to remain silent toward plots of the Islamic Republic.

One of Pakistan's Shi'ite clergy who is against the ruling regime in Iran and helps Iranian refugees in Quetta, has issued a statement condemning the plot to create religious friction in Pakistan and has accused the leader of the Islamic Republic as a man who is trying to create a war between Shi'ites and Sunnis.

KEYHAN on Mass Executions for Recent Explosions

GF150803 London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Aug 85 p 15

[Text] The first mass executions since the appointment of Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'iniha to the post of revolutionary prosecutor took place last week in Tehran. According to informed sources, this group included 18 persons connected to the mujahidin, fedayeen, and members of the Tudeh Party. They were executed in Tehran's Evin prison. These same sources indicate that the execution of these persons was connected with various explosions in several parts of the country.

Tehran Comments on DRA President's Statement

GF131823 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 12 Aug 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Latest Developments in Afghanistan"]

[Excerpt] According to a report from Afghanistan related to Babrak Karmal's disclosure yesterday concerning the local councils in that country, he expressed the hope that the elections in Afghanistan will result in meeting the people's needs and in the establishment of security.

With its latest initiative — including the other initiatives it has been making since the establishment of the fatherland front — the Babrak Karmal regime hopes to obstruct the people's opposition, to a certain extent, to the communist regime oppressing Afghanistan, to the Soviet occupationist forces, and to the 7-year-long war. However, the Afghan people are undoubtedly aware that through such initiatives the Babrak Karmal administration wishes to enhance the Afghan regime and government — which are Soviet servants — by setting up government establishments.

The Muslim Afghan people also know well that any regime that is not based on Koranic edicts is unacceptable to Muslims. No matter how many promises it makes for prosperity, any such regime is secular, atheist, idolatrous, and infidel — as long as it does not rule in accordance with God's ordinances. Therefore, until its fall is achieved, the struggle against it should continue and it should not be obeyed. Yes, the revolutionary Afghan people are aware of this understanding and will continue their struggle until the atheist and communist regime is overthrown.

Meanwhile, Babrak Karmal said that his country had become exhausted by the struggle it was waging against the guerrillas. This statement raises the following question: Whom is Afghanistan struggling against? Is it against a regime that is being kept on its feet by foreign occupationist forces or is it against the Muslim Afghan people?

It should be pointed out that the compromise negotiations between the superpowers designed to find a solution to the question of Afghanistan should not be considered unlinked with this statement. Babrak Karmal's statement that he and his supporters were exhausted does not mean that they will pull to one side. However, recognizing certain privileges to a number of Afghan groups with a view toward drawing them closer does not mean attracting them.

IRNA: Afghan Mujahidin Raid 'Forced Labor' Camp

LD141259 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT 14 Aug 85

[Text] London, Aug. 14, IRNA — A report of Afghan press received here said Afghan mujahidin have released dozens of persons from a forced labor camp in Qandahar city while injuring two guards. The report added that the Karmal regime is indulging in putting those people who are suspected to be companions of muhahidin in forced labor camps. The mujahidin attacked such a camp close to the Herat Gate in Qandahar on August 3, 1985, where dozens of people were engaged in forced labor in the presence of armed guards. Two guards were injured. Afterwards, Soviet troops started a search in the suburban areas but it was also frustrated after a sharp reaction from the masses.

In related news, the report said Afghan mujahidin killed or injured 40 Soviet-Karmal troops and destroyed three tanks during an attack on a military column in Farah Rud area of Bala Bullok sub-division in Farah Province on July 29, 1985.

Tehran: Afghanis' 'Struggle' Against USSR, Karmal
GF150800 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Unattributed, untitled commentary from "Pause With the Events" program]

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan indicate that the Muslim Afghan mujahidin have smashed an attack by the Marxist regime ruling in Kabul. The operation was carried out to regain the liberated areas in Oruzgan Province, central Afghanistan. Reports indicate that during their operations, the mujahidin were able to kill more than 50 soldiers and destroy 3 tanks of the regime.

It should be noted that the mujahidin recently attacked the headquarters of the Marxist regime's national front in Oruzgan Province. They captured a number of the regime's officers after killing and wounding others.

Other reports from Afghanistan indicate that violent battles have taken place in Faryab Province, northern Afghanistan. The Afghan mujahidin attacked an army camp in the province. They inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment. They also captured large quantities of weapons and ammunition.

Babrak Karmal, head of the Marxist regime ruling in Kabul, has talked about the elections in local government councils in the country. He said he hopes these elections would help ensure security and stability and would also meet people's demands. It seems that through these measures the Karmal regime has been trying since the formation of the so-called national front to encourage the masses to participate in these fake elections in a bid to free itself from the pressures on it as a result of the incessant operations the Afghan mujahidin are carrying out in reply to the oppressive war that the invading Soviet forces and the forces of the ruling regime have imposed on them simultaneously.

However, the Afghan people know very well that the ruling regime intends through these measures — elections for local government councils — to expand the bases of its official institutions in order to justify its continued rule. Yet despite all this, the Afghan people — as we have just said — know very well that the practices of the ruling Marxist regime, which are intended to baptise this regime, completely contradict the noble Islamic teachings. Hence, any response to these deceptive calls means submission to oppression, despotism, and infidelity.

It should be noted that Karmal said in his recent speech that he was tired of the war against the Afghan mujahidin. Yet he ignored the fact that the mujahidin are fighting a regime which is servile and an ally to infidelity and atheism and that his regime lacks the simplest constitutional bases because it was established through the support of foreign arms. Let us here refer to the attempts by the arrogant forces to reach an agreement on the future of Afghanistan. Hence Karmal's statements receive utmost importance, particularly when he said that he was tired with the current war at a time when arrogant forces continue to make attempts to reach a settlement to the Afghan issue. Therefore, the Afghan people, are determined to continue their struggle until this agent infidel regime is toppled and God's rule is established in Afghanistan.

IRNA: Afghan Mujahidin Kill 50 Soviet Troops
LD151329 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 15 Aug 85

["Russian Troops Suffer Casualty While Trying To Attack Mujahidin" — IRNA headline]

[Text] London, Aug. 15, IRNA — A report dispatched by Afghan press news agency received here Thursday said that Afghan Mujahidin have dislodged an attack on their strongholds in Deh Rawod District of Uruzgan Province in central Afghanistan.

A large contingent of Russian troops was sent from Tarin Kowt, the provincial capital city of Uruzgan, to Deh Rawod, 37 miles to the west, in order to overrun the Mujahidin strongholds.

Having prior knowledge about the movement, the Mujahidin waylaid and ambushed the convoy of tanks and armoured vehicles using rocket launchers and rifles. The convoy split in two groups. One retreated and the other one was encircled by Mujahidin. Three tanks were destroyed and 50 Russians were killed. 16 Mujahidin were also killed and 53 were injured.

Tehran Reports Afghan Mujahidin Operations
GF151700 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked a joint DRA-Soviet military outpost in Qandahar in southern Afghanistan and destroyed it. They killed 7 troops and captured 11 others. Reports from Afghanistan said that the Muslim revolutionaries also captured 12 weapons belonging to these troops in this operation.

The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries also planted mines on a road used by thanks belonging to the forces of the Soviet occupation in Helmand in southern Afghanistan. Three tanks were destroyed, killing 15 crew members and wounding 25.